



# EU CHILDREN'S PARTICIPATION PLATFORM

#EUChildParticipation

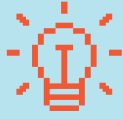


**CREATE,  
PLAN,  
PARTICIPATE**

The Platform's  
1st working meeting

Brussels, 27-28 June 2024





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## ABOUT THE MEETING

Welcome to the last meeting of the **1st Work Plan** of the **EU Children's Participation Platform!** In this meeting, we will look at what worked in the first two years of the Platform, what didn't and what we want to do next.

## WHAT

A series of workshops will take place in Brussels, at Comet Meetings Louise (Place Stéphanie 20, 1050 Brussels, Belgium).

### Children will review, co-create and discuss:

- > the Platform's activities from 2023 and 2024,
- > what to keep and what to change in the Platform's work,
- > how to better communicate about the Platform's activities, initiatives and outputs,
- > what to include in the next Work Plan of the Platform.

## WHEN

### Meeting days: 27-28 June 2024

Some children from the Children's Panel, a group that advises on how the Platform should work, will meet on 26 June afternoon to help us co-create and run the activities





## WHO

This meeting is for app. **37 children**, age 10-17, members of the Platform, who are eager to share theirs and other children's ideas on how and what the Platform could do in the next two years.

Accompanying adults will join and support children's participation in the meeting, and make sure that children can engage in the activities in a safe, meaningful way.

The meeting is co-organised and facilitated by **members of the Children's Panel** and the **European Commission**. Guests from the **Commission** and **two young experts** will also participate in some of the workshops.

**Adults who are child participation experts** will guide discussions and lead the workshops on evaluating our past activities and planning new ones. The **organising team** (the Secretariat and the Commission's rights of the child team) and the **logistics team** (Tipik) who organise everyone's travel, accommodation, meals and anything related to the venue, will make sure that everything goes well.

**Two safeguarding experts** (child-protection officers, in short CPOs) will be present throughout the meeting, ensuring that everyone knows how to act and work together to have a safe meeting and a good experience.

A **photographer** and two **graphic recorders** will help us document the activities.



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## PROGRAMME



### 27 JUNE | Building Strong Structures

TIMING	SESSION	PARTICIPANTS
8:30 – 9:30	Arrival at Comet and registration	Children and accompanying adults
9:30 – 10:10	<b>Opening session</b> Co-chaired by the members of the Children's Panel and Marie-Cécile Rouillon (European Commission)	Children and accompanying adults
10:10 – 10:25	<b>Conversation between children and</b> Iris Abraham, Cabinet of Vice-President Šuica for democracy and demography, European Commission	Children and Commission
10:25 – 10:40	Break	Children and accompanying adults
10:40 – 11:15	<b>Home groups creating our Platform</b>	Children
11:15 – 12:15	<b>How we collect ideas</b>	Children
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch	Children and accompanying adults
13:15 – 14:10	<b>How we make a change</b>	Children
14:10 – 15:05	<b>Photo session I by Fred Guerdin</b>	Children
15:05 – 15:20	Break	Children and accompanying adults
15:20 – 15:35	<b>Work of the website co-creation team</b> Presented by Jane Banham (European Commission)	Children
15:35 – 16:25	<b>Communication with children, teens and adults</b> With special guests: Lauren Mason (European Youth Forum) and Joseph Redsure (singer and activist)	Children
16:25 – 16:30	<b>Supporting children's engagment</b>	Accompanying adults
16:25 – 16:30	<b>Wrap up</b>	Children
16:30 – 18:00	Free time, walk to dinner and optional scavenger hunt	Children and accompanying adults
18:00 – 20:00	<b>Dinner in the city centre</b>	Children and accompanying adults



## 28 JUNE MORNING | Taking Action and Achieving Change

TIMING	SESSION	PARTICIPANTS
8.30 – 9.00	Arrival at Comet	Children and accompanying adults
9.00 – 9.15	<b>Building our platform</b>	Children
9.15 – 9.45	<b>Planning for action and change</b>	Children
9.45 – 10.00	Break	Children and accompanying adults
10.00 – 10.30	<b>Ideas for the next work plan from the European Commission Co-chaired by the members of the Children's Panel and Marta Kuljon (European Commission)</b>	Children and Commission
10.30 – 11.15	<b>Children's priorities for the next work plan (2025-2026)</b>	Children and Commission
	<b>Lessons learnt for adults on website co-creation with children</b>	Accompanying adults
11.15 – 11.30	Break	Children and accompanying adults
11.30 – 12.00	<b>The future: Choosing our priority issues</b>	Children
12.00 – 12.45	<b>Photo session II by Fred Guerdin</b>	Children
12.45 – 13.15	<b>Conclusions, closing Co-chaired by the members of the Children's Panel and Ingrid Bellander Todino (European Commission)</b>	Children and accompanying adults
13.30 – 14.30	Lunch	Children and accompanying adults
14.00 – 15.00	Departures	Children and accompanying adults



### A SAFE MEETING FOR EVERYONE!

To make sure that you enjoy this meeting of the Platform and that you always feel and are safe, comfortable, and happy, please read this information, and remember:

#### > YOU HAVE A RIGHT TO BE HEARD

During the meeting, you can share your thoughts, ideas, and questions freely. There are no bad ideas and no wrong questions.

#### > YOU ALWAYS HAVE A CHOICE

During the meeting, you can choose:

- which sessions you want to participate in
- when you speak and when you don't
- who you speak to
- what you say

#### > YOUR OPINION MATTERS.

We will take what you say at this meeting seriously. The Platform team will use what you say to develop and improve the EU Children's Participation Platform and its next work plan. After this meeting, we will also ask you what went well, what you would change, and your suggestions to make it even better the next time.

### Keeping memories of our work

During the meeting we would like to record your story through words, photos, video, or sound. To do this we need to make sure that you understand where your image will appear and how it will be used. We may use your image on the Platform's website, or on social media or information about the Platform that we share with other people. For us to do this, before the meeting we will ask you and your guardian to sign a so-called 'media consent form'. If you do not feel comfortable with being in any pictures and videos, you can tell us on this form and when registering at the meeting. We will make sure to respect your privacy. You can still participate in all parts of the meeting even if you do not want to share your image.

### Communication

The language of this meeting is English, but we provide interpretation in Spanish, Italian, Portuguese, Hungarian and German to those children who requested it. If you didn't ask for translation before the meeting, but you need linguistic support, please tell your accompanying adult and our team will do their best to assist you.

### Relax

We understand that active participation might be overwhelming for some children. It might feel like an adult job. This is why we prepared a room where you can relax and have some time away from the noise and the intense activities. Please make sure that before you go to this room, you let a trusted adult know how you feel. They are at the meeting to support you.

### Keeping safe and well

You should feel safe and well during this meeting. Remember that adults should never:

- > Do anything that makes you uncomfortable,
- > Hurt or threaten you in any way,
- > Send you private messages without permission,
- > Use rude or mean words or gestures,
- > Drink alcohol, smoke or take drugs or propose any of these to you,
- > Put you in unsafe situations,
- > Do things for you that are personal, which you can do yourself, such as dress you or wash you.

The Children's Participation Platform team wants a supportive environment for everyone to participate freely and be safe. Please make sure that you read and understand the children's code of conduct and that you treat other children with kindness and respect.

Examples of bad behaviour could be bullying, saying bad words, unsafe touching, pushing or doing anything else that makes you feel uncomfortable. If someone hurts you or you know that a child was hurt, there are people who will listen and can help you.

Remember that it is not your fault!

### Getting Help

If you feel uncomfortable or unsafe, or have any questions or concerns, you can speak to a trusted adult that can help you.

This person might be the adult who is accompanying you, a member of staff, or our Child Protection Officers (CPOs), Roxana or Arianna whom you can text or WhatsApp at +40727575971 or +393519341221. You can also email us at [cppsafeguarding@icf.com](mailto:cppsafeguarding@icf.com). If you share a concern with us, one of the CPOs will ask you to discuss more about what happened. They will try to give you the support you need. They will not share what you told them with any other children, but they might need to tell other trusted adults.

### During the meeting, you can find us:





## CODE OF CONDUCT

To make sure everyone enjoys and feels safe at the **Create, Plan, Participate** meeting all participants should:

- > **Treat others with kindness and respect – just like you would like to be treated.**  
Make sure that what you say and do is respectful and kind. Do not engage in harmful behaviour such as bullying or speaking rudely. Do not start any topics that might be harmful to others such as personal political and religious views.
- > **Be active listeners and allow space for everyone to participate equally.**  
Everyone should feel welcome no matter what their views, opinions, and background are. Do not interrupt others when they are speaking.
- > **Speak slowly and clearly so that everyone understands.** Remember that people come from different countries and speak different languages. It is OK to repeat important information.
- > **Dress in a way that makes you feel comfortable.**
- > **Accompanying adults always know where children are.** Accompanying adults are responsible for children and their safety, and they can provide support if something happens.
- > **Children can also share their concerns with one of the Child Protection Officers (CPO's).**
- > **Protect the environment and keep our surroundings clean.** Please pick up your trash and treat the meeting venue, your hotel, and other places you might visit with respect.
- > **Think about what you post on social media.** Once posted, it stays there forever. Please remember not to take photos or record others without their permission.
- > **No alcohol and other illegal substances are allowed.**
- > **When you want to ask a question, ask it.**
- > **Be yourself! Have fun! Make friends!**

### What can I do to help make sure that these rules are followed?

**Children:** If you notice that someone needs our help or you have any questions, please talk to a trusted adult (your accompanying adult), a member of staff or the Child Protection Officers (CPOs), Roxana or Arianna. You can also email us at [cpsafeguarding@icf.com](mailto:cpsafeguarding@icf.com).

**Children and adults:** Roxana and Arianna are the event's safety experts, and experts and are there to help you and make sure that you feel safe and comfortable. You can speak to them directly, or you can WhatsApp, call or text at +40727575971 or +393519341221.

### Additional useful contacts and information

- Emergency services in Brussels - Ambulance, Police, Fire: [112](tel:112)
- Logistics and organisational staff, who will be present onsite throughout the duration of the event:
- Logistics Team General Email: [support@euchildren.eu](mailto:support@euchildren.eu)
- Logistics Team on site: Marta Ivanovic, [marta.ivanovic@tipik.eu](mailto:marta.ivanovic@tipik.eu), +32456217215
- Travel agent: Liza Cromphout, [liza@universaltravel.be](mailto:liza@universaltravel.be)
- ICF Team: Irina Baltag, [irina.baltag@icf.com](mailto:irina.baltag@icf.com), +447576378007

